



Military spouse appreciation Day celebrated

From Fleet and Family Support Center

Military Spouse Appreciation Day is today. Across the country, loved ones have been separated as service members have been mobilized or deployed in support of the global War on Terrorism and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Military life presents its own unique challenges: frequent moves that take you away from family and friends, deployments that separate you from your loved ones, and finally the uncertainty of war.

Our spouses endure all of this with their chin up, maintaining homes and families, allowing our service members to do their duty. As we celebrate Military Spouse Appreciation Day, take this opportunity to tell your spouse thank you for his or her support and dedication for a job well done.

President Ronald Reagan proclaimed Military Spouse Appreciation Day in 1984. The official celebration date has been designated as the Friday before Mother's Day each year.

As sailors, we get caught up in the daily activities that characterize our modern military life. We often overlook opportunities to express our gratitude to those who support us and make untold sacrifices in support of our military profession. Frequently, the importance of our spouses' contribution and sacrifices are overlooked, taken for granted, or go unappreciated. While our sailors have faced increased deployments and longer family separations, spouses have remained behind to "hold down the fort." Through dedication and care they meet the challenges of job, family and home while their loved one is absent. They represent a true "combat multiplier" for our Navy.

Military spouses are a uniquely adaptable group of talented men and women from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. They are required to be ambassadors to the world in the truest sense of the word, and they do, as a whole, represent our country well.

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Sigonellan volunteers recognized

*By JOSN Steve Weaver
Staff Writer*

Sigonellans who volunteered their time and effort were recognized at the 2003 Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast hosted by the Fleet and Family Support Center on April 29 at the NAS II Galley.

Individual commands, tenant commands, and organizations throughout Naval Air Station Sigonella recognized their volunteers for the hard work they do by nominating them for this event. This was also the first year the NASSIG "Volunteer of the Year" award was handed out. The theme of this year's event was the "World Class Volunteer," of which there were many at Sigonella.

Capt. Thomas E. Dansak, staff chaplain, gave the invocation to open the ceremony. Then Steven Zahl, FFSC director, gave the opening remarks.

The keynote speaker, Capt. Ken Bitar, NASSIG executive officer, talked about the importance of volunteering and thanked those in attendance for their work. "I strongly believe that as responsible adults and United States citizens, we have a duty and an obligation to give

Volunteers, page 9

Today's Hometown Weather

Lewiston, ME



Lewiston

High 58° F - Low 38° F

Partly cloudy

Blood, sweat and metal



Photo by JOSN Steve Weaver

A member from Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Detachment performs repair work on a Engine Air Particle Separator (EAPS) of a MH-53 helicopter assigned to Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Four (HC-4), "The Black Stallions."

*By JOSN Steve Weaver
Staff Writer*

The whirring of a drill. The clink and clank of a hammer. The sparking of a grinder. It's a busy space full of Sailors keeping the aircraft of Naval Air Station Sigonella flying high above the Mediterranean.

The Sailors of the Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Detachment (AIMD) Airframe Division have the know-how to fix almost any aircraft related part that comes their way. They do tire repair, aircraft structural repair, welding, machine work, metal heat-treating, and advanced composite repair. They can also deal with pneumatic and hydraulic components. "We also have a nondestructive laboratory to test metals for fatigue cracks, surface cracks and serviceability," said AMC (AW) Tom Fortner, Airframe Division leading chief petty officer. Nondestructive testing

methods are used to investigate a material's integrity without impairing its future usefulness. "We use processes such as X-ray and ultrasonic to test metals." He added that the division has the only X-ray facility in the Mediterranean. "These are the guys that make sure the plane is okay to fly."

"In this shop we can pretty much fix any structures," said Fortner. "It doesn't have to be aircraft. Anything that people have that they want us to fix, we usually fix it." This includes welding items for ground support equipment and checking the fire department's hooks for cracks.

The airframe division's workload is unique due to the different aircraft they repair. "We get anything from 747's to A-10's to EA-6B's," said Fortner. "We can take care of pretty much anything that lands on the flight line. Whether it's making a patch, performing small repairs, or assisting someone else in performing repairs, we can do it." As Fortner said, "We're pretty much the

jack-of-all-trades shop for AIMD."

The "intermediate" in AIMD means they fix things that cannot be fixed at the organizational or squadron level. Organization maintenance includes upkeep and servicing of aircraft such as what goes on at Helicopter Support Squadron Four (HC-4). "We fix things that they can't," said Fortner. If AIMD can't fix it, it must go to depot-level maintenance. "Our job is to repair all those parts so they don't have to go to depot-level maintenance," he said. By working hard to repair these parts, the Airframe Division is saving the Navy money. "We save the cost of every part that comes in here that we repair, and we're talking millions of dollars," said Fortner.

For example they have saved countless dollars on a part called a blade extender from an MH-53 helicopter assigned to HC-4, they have saved

Airframes, page 6

May the force be with you; know your FP levels

*By JO2 David Hamilton
Staff Writer*

It is 5 a.m. on a Thursday morning, the sun is beginning to rise and there is a slight chill in the air. The patrolman at the gate is standing smartly waiting for the morning rush of on coming traffic; all conditions are normal. A vehicle has not passed through the gate in two hours. He



Sailors from various commands at NASSIG learn proper gun handling procedures.

then notices a car coming. As the vehicle approaches, the very observant patrolman notices a look of relief and excitement on the young Sailor's face.

You may have noticed driving through the gates, Naval Air Station Sigonella is at a lower level of force protection, but what exactly does this mean and how does it affect you?

Did you know there are four levels of force protection? The lowest level of force protection is Alpha. This is when there is a general threat of possible terrorist activity, the nature and extent of which are unpredictable, against personnel and facilities. Expect random vehicle checks and increased crime prevention efforts.

"You can expect to see closer inspections of vehicles, identification checks and increased manning of security forces at the gate during Bravo," said MA1(SW) Benjamin Johnson, anti-terrorism coordinator for NASSIG. "An increased and more predictable terrorist threat exists, however this does not indicate that the base is targeted".

Force Protection Charlie is implemented when an incident occurs (not necessarily at our installation) or there is evidence of a terrorist attack being planned., such as surveillance or reports from local sources. When you approach the gate during this level expect multiple identification checks, increase of posts and security manning, and more intrusive vehicle checks.

When a terrorist attack has occurred or when intelligence indicates imminent terrorist action against a specific location the condition is raised to Delta. According to OPNAVINST 3300.55 Force Protection Delta is

Force, page 6



Direct Line

Capt. Tim Davison
NASSIG
Commanding Officer

“Major combat operations in Iraq have ended... Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) was carried out with a combination of precision and speed and boldness the enemy did not expect and the world had not seen before,” President Bush, on board USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), May 1, 2003.

Yes, the war might be officially over per se, but there is still a lot of work to be done. In this fight, Naval forces applied dominant, decisive and lethal offensive power in support of coalition warfighting objectives... the speed, agility and persistence of Naval combat capability helped end a regime of terror and liberate a people.

The liberation of Iraq is a crucial advance in the campaign against terror. The global war on terror and our mission continue. Our nation continues to call on the military to safeguard our freedoms at home and abroad. As we look ahead, constituting and setting our forces for future employment is vital to our mission and continued future success...we must proceed with great speed.

Naval contributions ranged from strategic to tactical strike missions... to combat air support missions... to mine countermeasure, humanitarian assistance and medical relief efforts.

Some significant sea strike data includes: Aircraft from participating carriers flew an average of 234 sorties a day... Of these, carrier air averaged 152 tactical air missions daily. The highest number of Navy sorties in a single day (425) were flown April 2. In all, nearly 8000 combat and support missions were flown from the five participating carriers... 65% of these were tactical air missions. In total, over 800 Tomahawks were launched during OIF. The 35 coalition ships and submarines that fired TLAMS averaged a total of 26 launches a day during the campaign. The highest number of TLAMS launched ever in one day occurred on March 21, when nearly 400 were launched.

NAS Sigonella is continuing to provide logistical support to OIF, the SIXTH Fleet and NATO forces in the Med. We are the “Hub of the Med” and we have superbly lived up to that name for the last couple of months. The services we have provided to everyone has been top-notch.

On base, you will see things begin to get back to normal. I can’t give you a definition of what degree of normalcy we will be at yet, but things are slowing down here and we’ll get back to our daily routine. Everyone here on base played an integral role in helping OIF end in success. From our Supply and Security Departments, to our Base Ops personnel keep the Flight Line moving, everything we did here worked well.

The war on terror is not over, yet it is not endless. We have, however, seen the turning of the tide. Our coalition will stay until the work is done. Thank you for being flexible and rolling with the punches. Keep taking care of your Shipmates and your families.

The Pulse

What You Should Know About SARS

By Brian Badura, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

WASHINGTON – The recent outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome, better known as SARS, has raised many questions worldwide. Many public health organizations are now working to find out how to effectively control this mysterious illness.

“The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) have mounted a massive response to SARS, and they have done so because this virus causes severe illness and has spread from China to a number of countries,” according to Capt. Jeff Yund, Medical Corps, director of preventive medicine and occupational health at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

SARS is a respiratory illness that has been reported in Asia, North America and Europe. The WHO has reported 3861 probable cases worldwide and 217 deaths as of April 21. In the United States, 39 probable cases have been reported, with no deaths.

The illness usually begins with a fever greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit. The fever is sometimes associated with chills or other symptoms, such

as headache, general discomfort and body aches. Some people also experience mild respiratory symptoms at the outset. In addition, SARS patients may develop a dry cough two to seven days after the onset of symptoms.

The typical incubation period for SARS is two to seven days, but in some cases can be as long as 10 days. The SARS outbreak is believed to derive from a previously unrecognized coronavirus.

Investigators have determined that the primary means of SARS transmission is through close person-to-person contact. Most cases have involved people who lived with or cared for someone who is infected, or had direct contact with infectious material, such as respiratory secretions. The infectious droplets are usually touched by someone, and then transmitted by touching the eyes, nose or mouth. They can also be spread when an infected person coughs or sneezes particles into the air.

A few simple steps can help to prevent the spread of respiratory infection, including SARS. “Washing your hands frequently, especially if there are sick people around, is one of the best ways to help prevent transmission,” said Yund. “Touching your face less often, covering your mouth when you cough or sneeze, and decreasing unnecessary time spent close to others who are sick can also help.”

Currently, tests to indicate whether a person does indeed have SARS are being developed, but not widely available. If someone shows the symptoms and suspects they may have SARS, they should visit their health care provider for diagnosis and treatment, being sure to disclose travel to outbreak areas and contact with potentially infected individuals. CDC currently recommends that patients with SARS receive the same treatment that would be used for any patient with serious community-acquired atypical pneumonia of unknown cause

For a person with a suspected case of SARS, isolation, either at home or in the hospital, is used to minimize transmission of the virus to others.



Dec. 6 1949-May 1, 2003

In memory of Giuseppe “Joe” Scuderi

Popular local national Giuseppe “Joe” Scuderi, employed by the Navy for twenty-six years, passed away on Thursday May 1 after a sudden illness. Complaining of not feeling well, Scuderi was taken by family to Garibaldi Hospital in Catania a few days prior to his death. At the hospital Scuderi suffered a series of heart attacks and then fell into a coma before succumbing.

Known as “Joe” to all his American friends, Scuderi began employment in vending machine maintenance with the Sigonella Navy Exchange in February 1973. He remained in this position until Sept. 1978.

After a brief stint in the private sector, Scuderi returned to the Navy as a slot machine technician for MWR in March 1982.

“God took the best,” stated Ken Dexter, Scuderi’s supervisor for his last twenty-one years as a base employee. “He was very conscientious and a hard worker, loyal to the Americans and this base. Everybody liked him.”

Scuderi is survived by his wife, Nella, herself a former employee of the base, his son Pierro, presently employed on base as a fire fighter and his daughter Luciana, who is a student.

The funeral took place May 3, in Motta at San Antonio Catholic Church. “The church was so full that people had to stand outside,” said Dexter. “At the end of the service there was a standing ovation and big round of applause for such a good guy.”

“It will be hard to forget Joe,” continued Dexter. “He will always be remembered by his many friends.”

To bee or not to bee

There are colonies/hives of honey bees located Northeast of the Marinai housing complex. You can expect to see a fair amount of bee activity within the complex because of the close proximity of the colonies. Additionally, with all of the flowers in bloom this time of spring you may notice an elevated amount of bee activity as they take advantage of the abundance of food available.

These are not African “Killer” bees. Africanized bees are a special hybrid of European and Southern African strains of honey bees and only occur in South, Central and the most southern portions of North America. The bees in Sicily are similar in habit and temperament to the vast majority of honey bees that occur in the U.S.

The majority of aggressive behavior exhibited by bees comes from a real or perceived threat to the hive and queen bee. Therefore, one must be close to the colony in order to be at significant risk of being attacked and this is why beekeepers use protective gear when tending to bee colonies. It is very unlikely that the bees will attack anyone in housing because the colonies are located outside the complex. The bees will have to be “forced” to sting by handling or irritating them in some

way.

The bees can be seen flying in large numbers at certain times of the day through the housing area. This behavior likely comes from a scout bee that has communicated to the rest of the colony a good source of pollen or nectar and much of the colony has moved out in response. This is normal behavior and the bees provide no elevated risk of attack. Just like a well trained military unit, they move out and come back in an orderly fashion!

If you are is stung by a honey bee, the following first aid and precautionary measures should be administered:

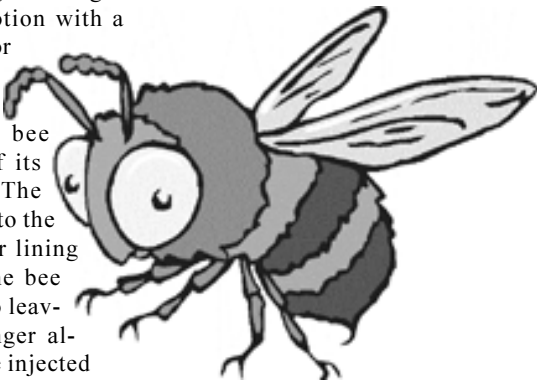
•Remove the stinger using a sideways scraping motion with a fingernail, credit card or dull knife. This should be done as soon as is practical because the bee does not inject all of its venom immediately. The venom gland attached to the stinger has a muscular lining that contracts after the bee leaves it in the skin, so leaving the stinger in longer allows more venom to be injected into the skin. Do not use tweezers as they may cause more venom to be injected into the sting site.

•Apply an ice pack to reduce pain.

•Watch for an unusual allergic reaction such as red blotches anywhere on the body, dizziness or difficulty breathing within the first 20 minutes after the sting. If a reaction is perceived seek medical attention immediately.

•Medical attention should be sought if someone is stung multiple times.

Honey bees provide a lot of valuable services such as the pollination of crops and plants as well as, of course, honey! A little knowledge and respect for these fascinating buzzing little creatures will make for a happy and safe coexistence.



NAS Sigonella Worship Opportunities

Catholic Mass
Saturday 5 p.m. Chapel (NAS II)
Sunday 9 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)
Sunday 9 a.m. in Italian 41st Stormo Chapel (NAS II)
Sunday 11 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)

Protestant Traditional Worship
Sunday 9 a.m. Chapel (NAS II)

Protestant Worship
Sunday 9 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)
Sunday 11 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Latter Day Saints
Sunday 1 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Church of Christ
Sunday 3:30 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Jewish Shabbat Service
Last Friday of the month 5 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Weekdays
Daily Catholic Mass 11:30 a.m. (NAS I & II Chapels)
Wednesday Protestant Bible Study
4:45 p.m. (NAS II Chapel)
For more details, call 624-4295 or 624-2947.

Faithful ... ?


By Chaplain Tim Moore
Command Chaplain

It seems that the warmer weather is here to stay for a while! It gets confusing in those in between weeks where you don’t know if you should take a sweater to work, a parka or if short sleeves will do. There’s a song from the Christian tradition, “Great is Thy Faithfulness,” that talks about the faithfulness of God to his people. The song points out that God will never change in His feelings for His people.

This seems like an appropriate analogy to utilize in reference to our recent weather. We never knew what to expect during the past few weeks. Will it rain? Be cold? Hot? Windy? or even, pleasant weather? In Oklahoma they tell you, “if you don’t like the weather we are having, wait around a few minutes and it will be different.” “Great is Thy Faithfulness” is also an appropriate analogy in reference to our personal character. Many people have difficulty adjusting to change. Some changes are easy and necessary. Other changes take a lot of

time, even a lifetime for adjustment. It is a great thing to know that God is faithful to us. But it is also important for us to do a quick check of our own ability to be faithful. Are we faithful in all that we have been entrusted? Or, are we fickle – “wait around a few minutes and you’ll see a different side of me...”. In what things, jobs, relationships, etc. can we characterize faithfulness? Often times we think of our wedding vows with regard to faithfulness. Our vows are promises for life that we make to each other, not until someone different (or “better”) comes along.

Our commitment to a person shows our faithfulness. And our faithfulness to a person shows our commitment. We can also characterize commitment and faithfulness to our jobs, other personal and professional relationships and to our children. When was the last opportunity you had to display your faithfulness? It’s kind of like that old add for Dial soap.... Aren’t you glad you use Dial, don’t you wish everybody did? Aren’t you glad that you are faithful, don’t you wish everybody was? Be faithful in all things.



SECURITY BLOTTER

CRIME STOPPER'S HOTLINE
624-6389
April 28 - May 4

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

- Traffic accidents without injuries - 10
- Traffic accident with injuries - 2
- Car break-ins - 2
- DUI - 0
- DUI's 2003 - 21
- DUI's 2002 - 35

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NAVY NEWS

Specialized reservists add capability to Military Sealift Command ships



Photo by AN Maeeil Trnko.

A CH-46 Sea Knight from the Gunbearers of Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Eleven (HC-11) transfers ordnance aboard USNS Kilauea (T-AE 26) to the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68) during a vertical replenishment (VERTREP).

By Dan Kuester, Military Sealift Command, Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — More than 170 Naval Reservists specially trained in underway replenishment are working for the Navy's Military Sealift Command (MSC), helping resupply combat ships supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Reservists comprise four Cargo Afloat Rig teams (CART) working aboard MSC ammunition ship USNS Kilauea (T-AE 26) and modular cargo delivery ships SS Cape John (T-AK 5022), SS Cape Johnson (T-AK 5075) and SS Cape Gibson (T-AK 5051) of the Maritime Administration's Ready Reserve Force.

These CARTs assist the ships' crews during underway replenishments and are usually assigned to ships that have been outfitted with a Modular Cargo Delivery

System (MCDS).

The MCDS is a 46 1/2-foot tower placed on the main deck of a ship that allows a cable to run between the supplying ship and the customer ship. When the cable is connected, the supply ship can transfer cargo to the customer ship across the connecting cable.

Kilauea is generally kept in a reduced operating status and is crewed with civil service mariners when she is activated. Kilauea does not use an MCDS, because the ship was built with underway replenishment towers. The CART aboard Kilauea helps the ship's crew perform underway replenishments.

Ships that have the MCDS aboard become doubly useful to MSC, because they can function both as point-to-point cargo carriers and as fleet auxiliary ships that take supplies directly to war ships, allowing the combatant fleet to remain on

station for longer periods.

"This is a valuable program for MSC and the Navy," said Vice Adm. David L. Brewer III, commander, MSC. "These Reservists help transform cargo ships into combat logistics force ships," said Brewer. "With a specially trained CART crew aboard, these ships can do double duty."

The Reserve units were developed following the Gulf War to assist the merchant crews assigned to Ready Reserve Force (RRF) ships for replenishment operations. When activated, RRF ships come under the operational control of MSC and support U.S. Navy missions.

There are seven CARTs assigned to RRF ships with MCDSs aboard and two units assigned to work aboard MSC ammunition ships Kilauea and USNS Santa Barbara (T-AE 28).

Each unit receives its specialized training at the MSC Underway Replenishment Training Center at Naval Weapons Station Earle, N.J., aboard ships during annual exercises and at Reserve centers with material provided by MSC.

MSC, the ocean transportation provider for the Department of Defense, normally operates about 120 civilian-crewed, noncombatant ships around the world.

Today, MSC operates more than 200 ships, most supporting U.S. forces deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. MSC ship missions vary from the transport and afloat prepositioning of defense cargo to underway replenishment and other direct support to Navy ships at sea as well as at-sea data collection for the U.S. military and other U.S. government agencies.

Recap CORNER

Parking relief is on the way. In an effort to have parking that complies with new stricter AT/FP criteria and to help relieve the chronic parking shortage on NAS II, two new parking garages will be built. Construction will start in May of 2004. The larger of the garages will take about 18 months to complete and the smaller approximately six months.

The larger garage will be five stories of parking (over 600 parking spaces) and be located in front of the Flight Line Clinic and NAS II MiniMart. The garage will eliminate the parking in front of both facilities when completed. To compensate for the loss of parking the ground level of the garage will be reserved for the customers of the MiniMart and Flight line Clinic. The second garage will be located across from Public Works in the parking lot in front of AIMD. It will be a one-story parking garage adding about 130 parking spaces.

Since the building of the garages will significantly reduce parking during their construction many open areas around NAS II will be converted to temporary parking. These temporary parking spaces will remain in use until both garages are complete. A map will be published in the near future showing the locations of the new temporary parking.

How Recap affects you: The Motor Vehicle Registration Office will start operating in their new building on May 11th. The new building is located ½ block west of the current building at the end of the parking lot.

If you have any questions about the SIG 2.3 construction, contact Lt. Darren Hale at haled@nassig.sicily.navy.mil

Acceleration and the school year calendar

From Stephen Decatur School

As we rapidly move toward the end of the school year, many families begin to make plans for pending permanent changes of station (PCS) as well as family vacations. DoDDS has policies and procedures for both events to assist parents in placing school attendance high on the agenda when making transition and vacation plans.

DoDDS Europe supports family vacations throughout the school year that provide culturally enriching experiences for children. Principals have the authority to grant excused absences from school to support trips. School officials ask that parents coordinate with schools in advance to arrange make-up work and to discuss the timing and any conflicts that may impact negatively on a student's success (standardized testing, finals, special events). The family vacation policy is not designed to accommodate early departures from school at the end of the semester or year.

Some families need assistance when a PCS comes prior to the end of the school year. Principals have provided clear guidance on the DoDDS policy for early withdrawal of students. The provision for permitting the early withdrawal of students with full credit was based on careful consideration of the unique circumstances found in the DoDDS system. It recognizes that due to the military necessity, families are occasionally required to move prior to the end of the school year and that children should not be penalized for this. The 20-day limit provides reasonable flexibility without compromising academic standards or placing the student in an unattainable position in regards to mastery of curriculum content.

If families are planning to leave a DoDDS school before the official ending date of June 12, 2003, the following conditions will apply. Students may NOT accelerate for any reason other than a PCS move. Students who are PCSing and accelerating must attend school through May 15, 2003 and have applied for early withdrawal to receive full credit for the semester. Upon presentation of PCS orders, students will be given the acceleration paperwork to bring to their teachers requesting acceleration and all of their assignments. Questions about this policy should be addressed to the local school principal.

This acceleration provision has never been intended to apply to, or be extended for, the convenience of family travel, visits or other discretionary reasons. The policy therefore requires that students present verification of the date of their sponsor's departure, i.e. PCS or other official orders, to school officials in order to receive consideration for full academic credit. Students who withdraw prior to the 20-day limit receive a "withdrawal" grade rather than a final grade.

In announcing this important reminder to parents, DoDDS-Europe Director Diana J. Ohman said, "It is incumbent upon all of us to carefully consider educational impact when making transition or vacation plans for our families. I ask for your cooperation and support. It is critical to student success."

Earth Day 9th Annual Motta Road Cleanup Saturday, May 10th, 2003

8:30 a.m. Meet and register at NAS I Community Park
8:45 a.m. Board buses for litter pick-up along Front & Back Motta Roads
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Appreciation lunch for volunteers, NAS I park
The first 300 volunteers will receive an Earth Day t-shirt.
Gloves and trash-bags will be provided.
Please contact PW-Environmental at x2722.

News Briefs

Girl Scouts Thank Community

The Sigonella Girl Scout Neighborhood would like to thank the community for all of the support they've received through the 2002-2003 year. All of the donations, cookie purchases, bake sales and bagging efforts have allowed the girls to reach their goals in pursuing volunteer and outreach activities, extended trips, and spring camps. A special thank you from the Girl Scouts goes to the Stephen Decatur School, Chapel, MWR and the Sigonella Chain of Command for all of their unseen support. The Girl Scouts thrived this year because of the support and they thank you!

Girl Scouting Early Registration

Looking for a neat thing to do? Join Girl Scouts! The Sigonella Girl Scout Neighborhood will be hosting an Early Registration on Saturday, May 31 at the Scout Hut behind the Hospital/NEX from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Stop by and explore the opportunities that Girl Scouting can bring into your life! Registration fees for both adults and girls is only \$7. Girl Scouting is for girls in Kindergarten to 12th Grade. We also have a large transfer this summer and will be looking for some of the Council positions to be filled for the 2003-2004 year. Some of these positions are: Overseas Council Chairman, Leaders and Asst. Leaders, Public Affairs, registrars for all ages. Stop by, have a hotdog and learn about some of the great adventures your daughters and you will experience with the Girl Scouts!

Base to Base Transportation

Bus services will not be stopping in front of Live Wire due to construction. Bus pick-ups and drop-offs are at the front gate.

New Products

New products will be coming to the DeCa Commissary soon. Beverage lovers will like the new fridge friendly 12-packs for Coke products. The slim line packs are also dispenser cartons. Diet Mountain Dew drinkers will soon be able to buy 2-liter bottles in stores by late May.

NAS I power outage Saturday

We have scheduled a base-wide power outage on NAS 1 from 2 to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 10. Listed below are the projected impacts of this outage.

Facilities and Units impacted by the outage: Commissary (Close at 2 p.m.), Exchange (Partially Close at 2 p.m.), Laundry (Close 2 to 7 p.m.), Food Court (Close 2 p.m.), Fitness Center (Close at 2 p.m.), Library (Close at 2 p.m.), Teen Center (Close at 2 p.m.), Bowling Alley (Close at 2 p.m.), "Live Wire" Club (Delayed opening to 7 p.m.), Barracks (Without Power but Room Key Cards will work) and Chapel (Relocate First Communion Ceremony).

Operational Units with *no impact or covered with generator power*: Security, Telephone Exchange Building, Hospital (Auto-Start Generator), Fire (Auto-Start Generator), AFN (Auto-Start Generator), Theater (Auto-Start Generator) and Water Treatment Plant (Auto-Start Generator). The Galley and Navy Lodge will experience 45 minute outages at the start of the outage (2 to 2:45 p.m.) and 30 minute outages at the end of the outage (7 to 7:30 p.m.) to connect and disconnect the generators.

Facilities and Units with no impact that are *normally closed* during the Outage period: Child Development Center, Adventures Unlimited, ITT, Angie's Travel, NAS 1 Pool, Veterinarian, Housing Office, Navy-Marine Corps Relief, Fleet & Family Service Center, and the DoDD School (Stephen Decatur School).

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

May 2003 marks the 24th annual national observance of Asian Pacific American Heritage month. This year's theme is "SALUTE TO LIBERTY," an appropriate reminder of how the collective contributions of all Americans strengthen the fabric of our nation. Over 11 million Americans of Asian Pacific Heritage are helping to build a vibrant nation today. It is projected that this number will double by 2005. In the Navy, there are currently 23,000 sailors of Asian Pacific Heritage (Enlisted and Officer) on active duty. Asian Pacific Americans are making notable contributions in the military as

well as in industry, science, education, government, and every other endeavor.

In May, the Filipino-American Association will host many publicized events throughout the community. This year's Asian Pacific heritage program is scheduled for May 21, 2003. Volunteers are encouraged to contact NCC(AW/SW) Dobison at 624-5924 or e-mail: dobisonk@nassig.sicily.navy.mil. Additional information on the rich diverse ethnicity and great contributions of Asian Americans can be obtained by visiting the following website: <http://www.asianamericans.com/>.

FLEET MANAGEMENT CENTER, VICENZA WILL CONDUCT A SEALED BID SALE OF GSA EXCHANGE VEHICLES

TYPE OF VEHICLES ON SALE: SEDANS, PASSENGER VANS, CARGO VANS, TRUCKS, BUSES, ETC.

VEHICLES ARE LOCATED AT: VICENZA-IFMS SALES LOT, LIVORNO-IFMS SALES LOT (Army depot), SIGONELLA-NAS II (paint ball field).

INSPECTION DATES: VICENZA & LIVORNO April 22 to MAY 2

INSPECTION DATES: SIGONELLA May 7 to MAY 9

BID SUBMISSION: NLT 9 a.m. MAY 13

**FOR INFORMATION CALL
IFMS VICENZA AT DSN 634-6266 or
IFMS LIVORNO AT DSN 633-8274**

THE ENERGY BLOCK

Building a better Sigonella. What does this mean behind the scenes for energy? Well for one, less energy consumption. A proven way to achieve this goal is by a system called DDC or Direct Digital Controls. Intelligent Building Controls for controlling heating, ventilating, air conditioning, including but not limited to; thermostats, regulators, valves, relays, and motors. These are controlled by software downloaded on computers that provide visual and audible alarms for mechanical malfunctions, graphs for recording energy usage and data for identifying trends—better performance, faster repair time and less money on maintenance.

***DID YOU KNOW:** If you reduce the temperature setting of your water heater from 140 degrees to 120, you could save over 18 percent of the energy used at the higher setting. Just by reducing it 10 degrees will save 6 percent.

***DID YOU KNOW:** Approximately 90 percent of the energy consumed by a clothes washer is for heating hot water.

LETS USE, NOT ABUSE



By Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff

Italian News
Sicilian culture and lifestyle

Kite Festival takes off in Motta

Bring the whole family for a day of flying fun! The Motta Tourist Office invites you to attend the fourth annual Giornata degli Aquiloni (Kite Day) that will be held on May 11 at 3 p.m. The event, which includes a kite competition, will take place at the Motta soccer stadium. Admission is free. To enter a kite in the competition, show up 30 minutes before the event. Participating kites, which will be judged according to the most colorful design and to the technical ability required for their construction, must be home made. Sigonella and Motta students are also expected to attend. For more information call 338-3859415.

Infiorata Festival to be held in Noto

From May 16 through 18, Noto, a magnificent Baroque city located on the southern slopes of the Iblei Mountains southwest of Syracuse will welcome spring with the Infiorata (decoration with flowers), a magnificent flower festival. Along the streets of the historic center, festivalgoers will get a chance to see, flower decorations that are absolutely astonishing and impressive in scale, (covering about 700 square meters).

The tradition of decorating the main streets of the city was originally imitated from the annual celebration in Genzano, a small village located in the center of Italy. In Genzano, petals were traditionally spread to decorate the itinerary of a religious procession that was attended by devotees who celebrated the Virgin Mary. This colorful “carpet” was destroyed later by the passage of the procession.

In 1980, Noto administrators of the time decided to start an Infiorata-like festival in Sicily by inviting the Genzano masters to “paint” the historic center of Noto with flowers. This gave a chance to Sicilian artists to learn the techniques and the secrets of this ancient art. Since then, every year, the city administration, after announcing what will be the theme of the year, organizes a competition for the best sketches. An award is given to the best three drawers. The theme for this year’s festival is the inscription of Noto on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Indeed, last year, UNESCO, a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, has inscribed Noto and other seven towns in south-eastern Sicily (Caltagirone, Militello Val di Catania, Catania, Modica, Palizzolo, Ragusa and Scicli), on the World Heritage List that consists of 563 cultural properties throughout the world. These cities were all re-

built after 1693 on or beside towns existing at the time of the earthquake in that year. According to UNESCO officials, these cities represent a considerable collective undertaking, successfully carried out at a high level of architectural and artistic achievement. Keeping within the late Baroque style of the day, they also depict distinctive innovations in town planning and urban building.

Festival Schedule Highlights

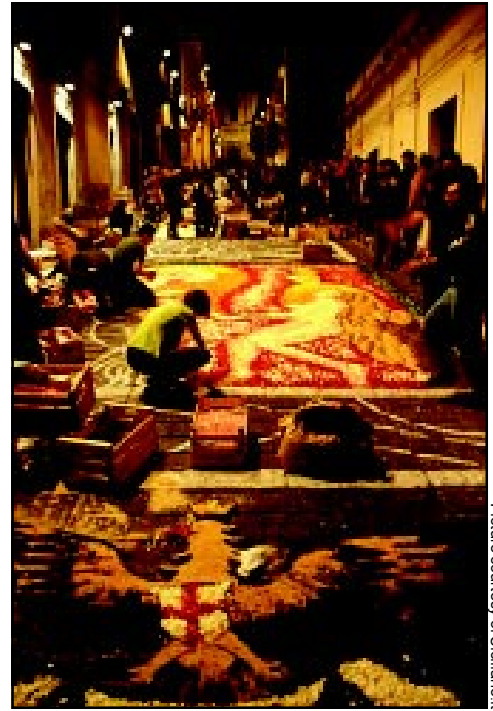
On May 16 at 6 p.m., Infioratori (the ones who decorate with flowers) begin to fill the drawings with petal colorful plants. Tons of flower petals (about 400,000 including carnations, gerberas, daisies, roses wild flowers and more) are used to create big carpets that typically reproduce holy images and modern topics.

Via Corrado Nicolaci, one among Noto's main streets, is covered by a mantel of flowers and there will be smaller decorations on some adjoining roads, courtyards and squares. The magnificent balconies of Palazzo Villadorata, the mesmerizing Montevergini Church and the elegance of the aristocratic palaces of Modica and Giunta, form a unique Baroque backdrop for the event.

Complementing the Infiorata is a spectacular parade, named Corteo Barocco or (Baroque parade) featuring over 200 people dressed as 18th century nobles, knights, dancers, musicians, flag waivers is held on May 18 at 4 p.m. throughout the historic center. Performers leave from Piazza Mazzini and carry the banners of the most famous aristocratic families of Noto. Musicians accompany the parade playing Baroque minuets. Several arts exhibitions and food booths are also set up inside the city most beautiful churches and buildings. Music shows are held every evening after sunset.

What to see in town

Visiting the Infiorata is a great occasion to see one of the most beautiful Baroque cities in the world that was named as “Garden of stone and gold,” for the yellowish-rosy color of its buildings and monuments. A living museum, Noto is located about 20 miles south of Siracusa. The city was built next to the river Asinaro in 1703 on the ruins of the ancient Roman City of Netum, which was destroyed in the earthquake of 1693. Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Normans, Swabians, Aragonese, and Spaniards conquered Noto throughout the centuries. However, all the traces of these civilizations were lost as results of the above-mentioned earthquake. Noto is the capital of the 18th century Sicilian and European baroque, and its religious and civil monuments are among the most valuable ex-



Under the magnificent backdrop of breathtaking Baroque balconies located off via Corrado Nicolaci, one of Noto's main streets, *Infioratori* (the ones who decorate with flowers) fill drawings with about 400,000 flower petals including carnations, gerberas, daisies, roses wild flowers and more) to create flower

carpets for the traditional *Infiorata* or Flower Festival. The *Festa* (festival), which runs from May 16 through 18, also features music shows, Baroque period parades, art exhibitions, traditional food booths and more.

amples of the skills of talented artists of the time such as Gagliardi, Sinatra, Labisi. Graceful curves of floral interfacing, of foreshortened views of palaces, gardens, and capitals and of putts decorate the facades of churches and buildings like the Church of San Francesco, San Domenico, Santa Chiara, the Franciscan Convent and the Salvatore Benedictine Monastery. Among the aristocratic palaces, Palazzo Ducezio is worth a visit. Architect Vincenzo Sinagra designed it in 1748. Beautiful neo-classical style frescoes by Antonio Mazza decorate the interiors.

For more information and detailed schedule call Noto Tourist office at 0931-573779.

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY								
<div>COMMUNITY CALENDAR</div>										9	Spouse Appreciation Day Provider Appreciation Day		10	Sailing Trip Aci Trezza & Cyclopes Rocks AU Call 624-4271						
11	Mother'sDay		12	Camp Adventure Registration kids six to 12 only 205 Youth Center		13	Old School vs. New School Basketball Game 5 to 7 p.m. NAS II Gym Call 624-2710		14	Game Night 4:30 p.m. Take 5 Call 624-4331		15	Mineo Teen Push-up Contest 4 p.m. Mineo Comm. Bldg.		16	Armed Forces School Yard Rules noon to midnight NAS II Ball Fields Call 624-2710		17	Paintball departs 8:30 a.m. Liberty Call 624-4331	
18	Messina & Castle of Milazzo ITT Call 624-4396		19	Special Additions Community Bldg. 1-3 p.m. Call 624-4291		20	Beary Special Sibs 3 to 4:30 p.m. Indoc Class Room Call 624-4291		21	Youth Tee-Ball and Baseball Practice until May 5 Call 624-4054 Sig Pride Day		22	Acireale City & Shopping ITT Call 624-4396		23	Sunset Horseback Riding Liberty Call 624-4331		24	Tropea Mainland Italy Camping Trip AU Call 624-4271	
25	Cruise the Aeolian Island ITT Call 624-4396		26	Memorial Day Special Ten Pens Bowling Alley		27	Plant a Flower Garden 4 to 5 p.m. 205 Youth Center		28	Stamping & Scrapbooking 5 to 7 p.m. Golden Anchor Call 624-4416		29	Lentini Shopping ITT Call 624-4396		30	BBQ at the Beach Liberty Call 624-4331		31	Base ICR 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. ICR Class Room Call 624-4291	
1	Patti Shopping & Parco Jalari ITT Call 624-4396		2	Special Additions 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Community Bldg rm 203		3	Beary Special Sibs 3 to 4:30 p.m. Indoc classroom Call 624-4291		4			5	Rainbow Playground 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. 205 Housing Call 624-4291		6	Agrigento Camping Trip until June 8 depart 3 p.m. AU Call 624-4271		7	Night of Champions Theatre time TBA Call 624-2710	

Airframes from page 1

countless dollars. “We saved the Navy about \$3.5 million last year on that one part alone,” said AMC (AW) John Egger, production chief. Egger said the Sigonella Airframe Division is unique in fixing this part. “We’re the only intermediate level facility in the United States Navy that has been authorized to remove the blade extenders to repair them.”

These fix-it-all Sailors are constantly working on parts. “You probably could come in here on any given day and see an MH-53 Engine Air Particle Separator (EAPS) or cargo ramp in here,” said Egger.

These Sailors like what they’re doing. “They’re enthusiastic at their job, and real eager to do their job,” said Fortner. “Normally, they get parts in here that are different and that they have never done before, and they’re eager and excited about doing it.” Fortner added that the skills they learn develop over time. “Because it really is a trade, it’s not something you just learn in ‘A’ School, it’s something you learn here,” he said. “They become skilled craftsmen.”

These skilled craftsmen’s blood and sweat are keeping the heavy metal flying high above the Mediterranean.



A member of the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Detachment (AIMD) uses a metal forming machine to repair a bell mount from a P-3 Orion assigned to Patrol Squadron Eight (VP-8) "Fighting Tigers", deployed to Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella.

Force from page 1

declared as a localized warning. Therefore, there is a higher state of alert and mandatory security measures are implemented.

Additional security measures delay and interrupt normal routines. According to Johnson, key and essential personnel will be the only personnel allowed on the base initially. Services will either be greatly reduced or not available for extended amounts of time. Vehicles that are allowed on the installation will be thoroughly inspected. Parking may only be allowed in overflow lots off the installation. Additional personnel will be activated for Auxiliary Security Force (ASF). All vehicles coming into the housing areas will be inspected.

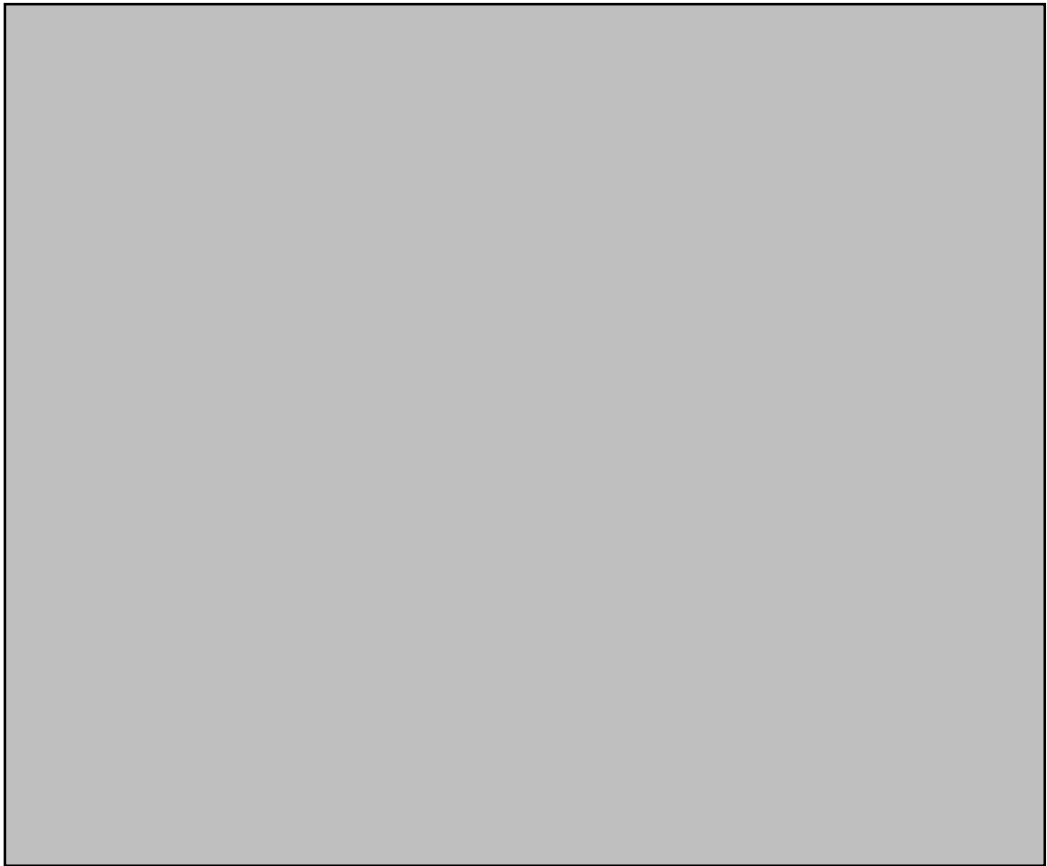
To prevent becoming a victim of terrorism or other criminal acts, certain safety measures should be taken seriously. While living in foreign countries, Sailors

need to be especially aware of their surroundings at all times. In addition, it is important to know how to utilize the local phone system, how to dial emergency numbers off base as well as knowing the numbers to call.

Avoid standing out, when traveling off base, by wearing inconspicuous clothing. Avoid crowded areas and demonstrations. Report any suspicious activity to security. These are just a few of the many precautions you can take to protect yourself and others. “People have to now be even more diligent and aware of their surroundings and report suspicious activity”, Johnson said.

The worldwide caution updated on April 30, reminds U.S citizens to remain vigilant against the continuing threat of terrorist activities and take appropriate measures to increase their security awareness.

“Although in a more relaxed state, being alert is what keeps us out of Charlie”.



Volunteers from page 1

back to the community,” said Bitar during his speech. “I can’t thank you enough for the time and effort that you’re putting into the particular agency or command that you’re volunteering with. Two hours a week or ten hours a day, you do it because you think it’s the right thing to do.”

The individuals from each organization were given a certificate signed by Capt. Tim Davison, NASSIG commanding officer, a “World Class Volunteer cloisonné pin, and a bag of “goodies.” These organizations included the Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Detachment, American Red Cross, Boy Scouts of America, Explosive Ordinance Disposal Mobile Unit Eight, FFSC, Girl Scouts of America, MWR, Naval Computers and Telecommunications Station, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Sigonella Animal Welfare Society, the Ombudsman Program, Parent Teacher Student Association, Sexual Assault Intervention, and Students and Mentors in Life Experiences.

After the recognition of each individual and their organization, the “Volunteer of the Year” was chosen. “We had a panel of six people from different agencies in the command decide who would receive it,” said Zahl. The panel looked through all the nomination forms to select the most deserving individual. “It was very difficult because everyone was great of course.”

The first recipient of the award was Jill Michalski, vice president of the Sigonella Animal Welfare Society. Michalski also volunteered for Red Cross, Command Education and Training, and the veterinary clinic. “It’s nice to be able to have a chance to do some volunteer



Ken Bitar, executive officer of NASSIG gives Jill Michalski, vice president of SAWS a certificate for the volunteer of the year award during the 2003 volunteer recognition breakfast.

work,” said Michalski. She said coming to Sigonella opened up these opportunities. “In the states things get kind of hectic. This is the first chance I’ve had to be able to volunteer and give a lot of free time, and I like that,” she said. “It’s satisfying to be able to see that I can help out.” Her advice for those who want to volunteer, or volunteer more, is simple. “There’s so many different things you can do...you just don’t realize how much of a difference you can make. There’s always somewhere you can give a little of your time.”

“Everywhere I turn, even in INDOC, I have people that are always asking me what can they

do to volunteer,” said Dave Patrocky, FFSC employment assistance program manager. Patrocky said he can help people find an organization to helpby volunteering their time. “I have a complete list of 40 or 50 different organizations that request volunteers.”

A significant portion of the Sigonella community volunteers. “We’re trying to recognize as many as we possibly can,” said Zahl. “We had over 240 people on our list, but I know there’s more than 240 people in the Sigonella community who volunteer.”

The event, which has grown every year, is part of National Volunteer Appreciation Week. “We want to recognize the manpower that we’re gaining from the volunteer people,” said Zahl. “We’re saving a lot of money by people volunteering and doing the work that we don’t have the paid manpower to do.” Zahl gave special recognition to Patrocky and Amy Parke for coordinating this year’s event.

As Bitar stated in his speech, “We will never end the need to have volunteers here.” To help out and volunteer, contact Dave Patrocky at 624-4291.

spouses from page 1

On this day and throughout the year, let us take the time to express appreciation to these wonderful individuals. They enhance and enrich our lives and those of our families, and indeed our Navy. Not sure where we would be without them, but it surely would not be where we are now!

I encourage all Sailors and those who support our Navy to join together in recognizing our military spouses on May 9. Our husbands and wives deserve recognition and our sincerest appreciation for their strength, unity, patriotism and support. I join all in saying thanks to those who are truly the “wind beneath our wings!”

NAVY BALL
CAR WASH
AND COOKOUT

Saturday, May 16, at Public Works washing station on NAS II from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Trivia Answers

- 1) Soggy Shrub 2) A Cat
- 3) Dental 4) Levi Stubbs(a former lead singer of the "Four Tops"
- 5) Praying Mantis

Word Find

Car Parts

Z Q M Z X X H G H V S T R P H L S S N L L T G T Z
Z P P U X R A U T O R Y N O A S E T J D P H A F X
F O O R A S O H B A S Y C N T R A E U K N G S I D
R K V R K R G R N C N E G D W U T E U J H I T H J
S H L E O I A S R M A I E A O B B R E I P L A S T
Y I T D L T M D V I S P T M R R E I H H B L N K S
Q S R D R I A A I N M E N O Q A L N R F K I K C U
U U A G S L D N R A R Z O J O Y T G L T T A E I A
M E Y S Z N P U E P T D T O O J B W J Q S T R T H
H P I S O B T V U T F O U T E D S H W M G I M S X
O O O T X C B M A G L Q R T X W I E K M X H D E E
N L S H R P P Y V C W A T Q O S Z E Q E Z M M S K
L I I D F V D I X C T S D B E D L O F I N A M J
P Y I R B X S A U G P U N O R K R A Y E F S V J I
R E T E M O D E E P S I M A R A L O I Q M I P L U
O I L F I L T E R Z W L D P Z R I S T A W D L L V
C P E N I G N E Y P C I Q A U B O E F O S E N C I
V D M S H O C K S A O T E A H M C A S V R P U M K
K C N A T I R E M R V R R Q N V P T E H X A B P F
D Q F L L R O S N E D N O C C T U S S O B N G S B
C E H R L G H X W W I N D S H I E L D O X E Z V U
E Q U H V A O H C X U J F R A Z O N D D M L K J A
G I D M F A X F K N U R T U J F I S N H N S K S T
Y Y A T A I R P U M P J S Y D Y M L N A K M N N Z
E M R M C O A B Z M W Z Z O V W G Z W B Y H W G C

AIRPUMP	ENGINE	MANIFOLD	ROTOR	TAIL LIGHT
ALTENATOR	EXHAUST	MIRROR	SEATBELT	TIRE
ANTENNA	FOGLAMP	OIL	SEATS	TRANSMISSION
BRAKES	GASKETS	OIL FILTER	SHOCKS	TRUNK
CAMSHAFT	GASTANK	PISTON	SIDE PANELS	TURN SIGNAL
CONDENSOR	HEADLIGHT	RADIATOR	SPEEDOMETER	VACCUM PUMP
DISTRIBUTOR	HOOD	RADIO	STEERING WHEEL	WATER PUMP
DOOR	HOSE	ROD	STICK SHIFT	WINDOWS
DRUM	HUBCAP	ROOF	STRUT	WINDSHIELD

TRIVIA

What does the Navajo term "Kemo Sabe" mean in English?
What animal appears in the titles of over 20 mysteries by novelist Lilian Jackson Braun?
What does the second "D" in DDS stand for?
Who provided the voice for "Audrey II," the signing plant in the 1986 movie "Little Shop of Horrors"?
What is the only insect that can turn its head?

(Answers on page 9)

Movie Connection

MOVIE's Theater Schedule

Friday, May 9



5:30 p.m.
Deliver Us From Eva (R)



8 p.m.
Pool Hall Junkies (R) **

Monday, May 12



5:30 p.m.
Dark Blue (R)



8:30 p.m.
Pool Hall Junkies (R)

Tuesday, May 13



5:30 p.m.
Chicago (PG-13)



8 p.m.
The Life of David Gale (R)

Wednesday, May 14



5:30 p.m.
Tears of the Sun (R)



8 p.m.
Cradle 2 the Grave (R)

Thursday, May 15



5:30 p.m.
Dare Devil (PG-13) *



8 p.m.
Deliver Us from Eva (R)

Friday, May 16



5:30 p.m.
X2: X-Men United (PG-13) **



8:30 p.m.
Bringing Down the House (PG-13)



10:30 p.m.
Old School (R)

Saturday, May 10



2 p.m.
Dare Devil (PG-13)



4:30 p.m.
The Life of David Gale (R)



7 p.m.
Tears of the Sun (R)



9:30 p.m.
Old School (R)

Sunday, May 11



1 p.m.
The Jungle Book 2 (G)



3:30 p.m.
Agent Cody Banks (PG)



6 p.m.
Chicago (PG-13) **

*** Future Re-release **Sneak Preview *Last Showing
(All times and movies are subject to change. For more information on the schedule, call the movie hotline at

Shout

DoDDs students talk about what's happening in the community

Program assists in transition for new students

By AN Michelle Hartgraves
Staff Writer



Photo by AN Michelle Hartgraves

10th grader Andrew Gomez demonstrates the Visual Communicator. Stephen Decatur's Good Will Ambassador programs allow students to communicate with new students through e-mail and send a visual presentation of them selves.

The Command Sponsorship program was designed for Sigonellans to act as a sponsor for new people just arriving. Each sponsor's job is to show them around and help them get checked in.

Stephen Decatur has adopted that concept for newly arriving student. In the Good Will program, students act as ambassadors for the school to help the transition to a new place. For 11th grader Adriana Zyskowski who already meet her sponsoree she reflected, "I hope that the program helped her know what to expect when she got here...being new is not that easy."

The program starts before "sponsorees" even arrive. Flyers about the program are placed in Welcome Aboard packets sent to PCSing families. The object of the flyer is to encourage students to e-mail the ambassador's internet account to establish initial communication according to Dr. Paula Peterson, Guidance Counselor.

New students are assigned to ambassadors based on grade levels and interests of the new students. Once contact is made, ambassadors make a visual presentation of them selves that they send to the students. This gives the new student a visual image of their ambassador and information about their new school.

Upon arrival the new students meet their ambassador for a tour of the school. Also the ambassador must also commit to eating lunch with them for one week and helping them meet new friends. "It would have been nice if I had someone to show me around when I first got here," stated Am Megan Beaujon 10th grade ambassador.

"For students involved they have a feeling of helping others and making a difference in their world...they learn the skills of verbal and non verbal communications which is important to all of us," stated Peterson.

Those interested in becoming an ambassador need to be in the sixth to 11th grade and have at least one year left on their tour of duty. Students will need to write a statement why they want to be in the program and must not have any attendance or discipline problems. All applicants will be interview. Once selected ambassador must attend monthly training and seminars. Each ambassador is given five sponsorees.

For their efforts and hard work Ambassador grades nine to 12th will receive a school letter. Grades sixth to eight will receive a special award. "...hopefully they will grow in maturity and be able to meet the challenges that they will face after graduating from high school.

A new duty station, new people and a new command and being stationed overseas can seem a little overwhelming at first. Being so far away from family and friends can make for big adjustments for Sailors and their families. To help transitions go smoothly, NASSIG started a program for Sailors getting orders in Sicily.

Fri. May 9

It's a Hip Hoppin' good time at Live Wire with their Hip Hop Night featuring DJ Sleepy spinning the best in R&B and Hip Hop dance music.

Sat. May 10

Join Liberty as they hike up south side of Europe's largest active volcano, Mt Etna. Come hike up an appetite for BBQ steak with sodas and water after the hike.

Visit the town of Trecastagni on the south side of Mt. Etna. Take part in the celebration of St. Alfio at the yearly Garlic Festival. Call ITT at x4396/x4777 for more information.

Sun. May 11

Visit the Salt Mine at Realmonte with ITT. See where the salt is created through a natural process and exported worldwide. Call ITT at x4396/x4777 for more information.

Mon. May 12

Come on down for BINGO at Live Wire at 5:30 p.m., games start at 6:30 p.m. Come early for a good seat.

Tues. May 13

Have you found "off the beaten track" treasures around Sicily. Come to Take 5 and share your expertise while you pick up a few travel tips from other explorers. Free pizza.

Weds. May 14

Right hand blue. Left foot green. Play Twister at Take 5 at 4:30 p.m.

Visit the famous winery of Torrevicchia in the province of Ragusa. Sample the wines and learn about the winemaking process. Wind down with lunch at the Carrubo Agrituristic Farm. Call ITT at x4396/x4777 for more information.

Strapped for cash...and hungry? Stop by JOX Sports Bar for some free munchies at 7 p.m.

Thurs. May 15

It's all request night at JOX Sports Bar. Request songs from the collection of Classic Rock, R&B, Alternative Rock, 80's, Retro and Dance.

This week on...

Sat. May 10 - MLB: Yankees @ Athletics
AFN Atlantic 10:00 PM

Sun. May 11 - NBA Playoffs
AFN Atlantic 9:00 PM

Mon. May 12 - Survivor (Season Finale)
AFN Atlantic 7:00 PM

Tue. May 13 - Movie: America's Sweethearts
AFN Atlantic 8:00 PM

Fri. May 16 - AFN Special: Celine in Las Vegas
AFN Atlantic 8:00 PM

CHECK OUT AFN'S NEW INTERACTIVE WEBSITE AT AFNEUROPE.NET/SIGONELLA

TUNE YOUR RADIO TO ZFM 106.0
MONDAY - FRIDAY, 9 - 11 AM, FOR CRAIG'S COUNTRY WAGON

afneurope.net/sigonella